

## ***TechWorks***

**Business, education and rehabilitation working together to expand employment opportunities for people with disabilities...**

### ***TechWorks'***

...mission is to help IT students with disabilities develop and refine skills to enter the information technology field. This program is guided by a Business Advisory Council.

These dedicated IT professionals offer their experience, insight and knowledge of the field to individuals with disabilities preparing them for the needs and demands of a career in IT.

The current focus will be in Help Desk, Desktop Support and Web Development. Other career areas will be added in the future.

Dave has been employed in the Service Desk for 5 years. He must use a wheel chair for mobility but we have not made any special arrangements for him. Dave visits staff throughout our building to work on IT problems... lifting and moving PC's and monitors. His disability has not interfered with any job related responsibility. It is transparent to anyone who works with him, Dave is one of the most intelligent and respected IT staff in our department and is a senior project leader in our unit."

-Jim CaPaul, IT Manager  
Department of Workforce Development

"This program will be an excellent resource for people with disabilities....I wish it had been around when I was looking for work."

-Joe Gunderson, Network Specialist  
Kraft Foods

"Scott has been with us since 1991 as a programmer...we have installed JAWS and Window Eyes to accommodate his visual impairment...the costs were reasonable and we have a great employee"

-Peter Frey, American Family

Since 1986, the Ability Connection of Greater Milwaukee has provided a connection for people with disabilities to enter into a career in Information Technology by providing individual mentoring programs, full-time job opportunities, internships and scholarships. Our placement success, growing membership, and recognition awards are some of the tangible reasons that we believe so strongly in this model. As a result, we are delighted to see that a similar model is beginning in the Madison area. The rewards for everyone who participates in this program are also just beginning.

Richard Kolbe Ability Connection Executive Chair



## What's in it for your company?

Here is an excellent opportunity to groom employees for your workforce, provide a valuable service while giving back to your community.

There are many ways that you can become involved.

- Become a member of the BAC or a BAC subcommittee
- Serve as a mentor
- Provide students with internships
- Offer tours of your IT department for career exploration
- Recruit graduates from the program for permanent positions

To learn more, please contact BJ Pfeiffer, **Techworks** Executive Chair and President of Enterprise Solutions Technology Group at (608)-287-0222 or Sonya Patterson, **TechWorks** Coordinator, (608)-246-3140 ext 122

DWD is an equal opportunity employer and service provider. If you have a disability and need to access this information in an alternate format, or need it translated to another language, please contact 800-442-3477 or 888-877-5939 (TTY).

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## TechWorks

...a collaborative program between the Greater Madison Area Business Community, Area Educational Institutions and the Wisconsin Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

